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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 25 August 1949

TO: Chief, FBM  
FROM: Chief, [REDACTED] 25X1A6a  
SUBJECT: Alleged Shortage at [REDACTED]

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1. Attached hereto for your information and consideration is a statement prepared by [REDACTED] administrative assistant at [REDACTED] on her experiences as finance officer at the Base in the hope of throwing some light and setting forth the frame of reference on the alleged shortage of funds which occurred at the Base. It is a frank and sincere statement on the difficulties, pressures, tensions between personnel, and the trial and error situation which prevailed in the early days of [REDACTED]. Manifestly, it cannot set forth exactly how and why the shortage occurred but it does set forth the general operational situation at [REDACTED] within which the alleged shortage most probably occurred.

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2. As Chief of the Base, I am quite certain of one thing--the shortage did not arise as the result of malfeasance on the part of either [REDACTED] all of whom were the officers directly involved in the disbursement and accounting for operational funds. Nor can one single factor such as disbursement without appropriate vouchering be singled out as a constant error. The truth probably lies in a combination of circumstances, conditions, and untrained personnel - most of which the attached report brings forth.

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3. In the absence of more accurate and positive criteria in analyzing the financial discrepancy, it is respectfully requested that consideration be given to the write-off of the sums involved as a charge against the whole [REDACTED] during its critical organizational period.

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